

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

"And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to naught: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."—ACTS 5: 38, 39.

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Price One Penny.

DISCOURSE BY ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE.

THE following discourse was delivered by Elder George Teasdale at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday, June 28, 1898.

"O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

"And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south." (Psalms 107: 1, 2, 3.)

My soul is full of thanksgiving and praise to God in listening to the testimonies that we have heard this afternoon from the returned missionaries; for we are the redeemed of the Lord. We are they whom He hath gathered from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south, and whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy. We were under the dominion of death, hell and the grave. We were without the knowledge of the principles of redemption. We were taught the fear of God by the wisdom of man. We were subject to the darkness that covered the earth and the gross darkness that blinded the minds of the people, in consequence of the spirit of revelation having been withdrawn from the earth. We can indeed rejoice in the Lord, for He visited us upon the isles and upon the continents. He sent this glorious message of salvation unto us. He taught us of His ways, and of the powers and keys of an everlasting Priesthood; and He gave unto us the principles of everlasting life. We never could have understood anything about the principles of redemption, had it not been for the principle of revelation which our Father hath restored to the earth in this dispensation. He has

organized upon the earth His Church, with Apostles and Prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. He sends out His servants to offer the principles of life and salvation to the world and to warn the nations. They confess that they are weak instruments, and they go with trembling; but they are told to seek unto the Lord and put their trust in Him, because He has called them, and they come back filled with thanksgiving and praise to God for the testimony He has given unto them. They know that the principle of revelation is in the Church. They know that the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. They know that the promises made to them under the influence of that spirit, when they were set apart for their missions, have been literally fulfilled. They know that God lives, and that Jesus is the Christ.

I want to bear my testimony concerning these valleys of the mountains. God has consecrated them for the gathering of His people. The everlasting principles of the Gospel are being taught in these everlasting valleys. We are beneath the shadow of a temple raised to the Most High God, in the which the ordinances of His house are performed and we receive the keys and blessings of an everlasting Priesthood. We are taught the principles that lead to endless lives. We are taught the necessity of keeping ourselves clean and unspotted from the world, loving the Lord our God with all our might, mind and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, and being chaste and virtuous. We are taught that we are the salt of the earth, and that we have to practice the principles of righteousness—to be honest, to be sincere, to give our affections to God and to keep His commandments. We are promised that if we will do this we shall prosper in the land. And we believe it. We do prosper in the land. The Lord blesses and sustains us.

We came out of the world and gathered to these valleys of the mountains because God had said, "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." We are living in the hour of God's judgment. The angel that John saw fly through the heavens, having the everlasting Gospel to preach to men upon the earth, as described in the 14th chapter of Revelations, has come. We tell the people this. The Lord has restored to the earth His everlasting Gospel, and the Gospel of the kingdom is being preached in all the world for a witness prior to the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in fulfillment of His own prediction. If salvation and redemption could be obtained without our going to the people, what would be the use of wasting our time and our means to go and offer them a gospel they did not want? But there are certain people who do want it. Those who are of the house of Israel, those who hunger and thirst after righteousness want it, and we offer it to them. We do everything we possibly can to put them in possession of these glad tidings of great joy—that God hath again spoken from the heavens, and that he hath established His Church upon the earth.

The first factor necessary in this work was an inspired Priesthood. "How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? and how shall

they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?" (Romans 10: 14, 15.) To preach this Gospel of the Son of God it is necessary to be called of God. Christ Himself, we are told, did not take this honor upon Himself, but was called of the Father. In the 5th chapter of Hebrews we are told:

"And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

"So also Christ glorified not Himself to be made an high priest; but He that said unto Him. Thou art my Son, to-day have I begotten Thee.

"As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec.

"Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

"Though he were a son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

"And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

"Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec."—(Hebrews 5: 4-10.)

It is essential that men should be called of God and have the Priesthood to preach the Gospel and officiate in the ordinances of salvation. It is necessary that we should worship the living and true God, not an imaginary God. We have to accept God, the Eternal Father. It is said that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. We certainly will have very little wisdom if we do not reverence the Lord. The reverence of the Lord is the foundation of faith and of pure intelligence. The highest intelligence is granted by revelation; it is the glory of God, it comes from above, it is given unto those who love Him and keep His commandments. He gives them line upon line, precept upon precept, grace for grace, if they believe in His doctrine and worship Him in the name of His Son.

It is necessary also that we should have faith; for without faith it is impossible to please God. We must have a true faith, too, or else we may be as broken cisterns that hold no water. Whence did these young men who have borne their testimony obtain that knowledge? From our Father in heaven, through the spirit of revelation. They had believed in the Gospel; they had repented of their sins; they had been baptized for the remission of their sins, by a man who had the authority of the Priesthood; they had been sanctified in the precious blood of Christ, to prepare them for the fellowship of the Holy Ghost; they had received this Holy Spirit, and their trust was in the Lord. Then they were willing to leave these peaceful vales and all that was dear unto them, take their lives in their hands, and go to a foreign land, among strange people, and declare the glad tidings of great joy. It was just this class of men that brought the Gospel to us. They were humble and meek, not trained for the ministry by the learning of man, but sent out under the direction of the immortal God; for He does His own work. It was not by wisdom, not by might, but by the power of His Spirit. That is the way we were converted. We heard the word preached, and it seemed almost too good to be true to be told that the signs followed the believer, that the Apostleship and Priest-

hood had been restored to the earth, and that there was prophecy, speaking in tongues, healing of the sick and miracles. But we obeyed the word and proved all these things, and in this way obtained redemption from death. We could not obtain it in any other way. It is the doctrine of Christ that all mankind must repent, must be baptized for the remission of sins, must receive the efficacy of the precious blood of Christ and fellowship of the Holy Ghost, that they may be redeemed of God. This message is to all, priest and people.

The difference between the Latter-day Saints and the world is that we have received this Gospel and the world has not. We have come out of the various sects and systems that we belonged to. The Lord has converted us, and drawn us into His fold, and He has given us a living testimony. All mankind can have the same, if they earnestly and sincerely desire it. The reason our young men go out to proclaim these principles is that those who desire to obtain eternal life and a standing in the kingdom of God may have it.

Therefore, I say, we are the redeemed of the Lord, we who are striving to prepare ourselves for His kingdom and coming, we who have separated ourselves from the world and cannot associate with them in any of their iniquities, we can rejoice in the Lord, and we can patiently wait for His kingdom and coming; for if we pass behind the veil we shall come with Him, and if we are here, we shall meet Him when He comes. What is going to give us this right? Because we have accepted of His doctrine and have obeyed these everlasting conditions. If we had rejected them, we would have no such hopes. Our Christian friends say, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. That is what we are preaching all the time. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and cease believing in the doctrines of men. Accept the doctrine of Christ, and that will give you redemption from death, a glorious resurrection, and a hope for the marriage supper of the Lamb, which you never can obtain by preaching and believing false doctrines. How can we ever be sanctified by the truth unless we have the truth? I bear testimony that we have the truth. That intelligence has come to us. Scholastic attainments alone cannot be called true intelligence. No matter how corrupt a man may be, he can obtain scholastic education; but the intelligence that comes from God is only understood by the pure in heart, those who love Him and keep His commandments. He gives them eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to understand. The highest intelligence is to know things as they have been, as they are, and as they will be, by the power of the Spirit of God. But the world will not have this. It is not popular. The doctrine of Christ never was popular, and never will be until we all see eye to eye, and there is a separation of the wheat from the tares. As long as they grow together there always will be opposition against the truth. What does the history of the world teach us? That there has always been anti-Christ; and anti-Christ is everything that is opposed to Christ and regards the doctrine of Christ as non-essential. Those who are for Christ believe in His doctrine and in living it. But those who love the world and the things of the world do not have the love of God in their hearts.

If we loved the world, the love of God would not be with us. Our ambition should be to please God, to keep His commandments, and to see His righteousness established upon the face of the earth, because it brings happiness. The love of the world does not bring happiness. The greatest happiness that anyone can enjoy is godliness with contentment, and to visit the widow and the fatherless, and keep ourselves pure and unspotted from the world. That produces the most unalloyed happiness that we can attain to.

Jesus said that whoso would do the will of the Father should know of His doctrine, and we know that Jesus spoke the truth. How do we know it? By our experience. We know that Jesus is the Christ, and that Joseph Smith was a true prophet sent of God to usher in a dispensation of the fulness of times. We never could have been born of the water and of the spirit if we had not accepted this doctrine. If there had been no Priesthood there would have been no ordinances. If there had been no ordinances there would be no redemption, because "unless a man is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God," Jesus said to Nicodemus. "We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness." That is the way with the Latter-day Saints to-day. We testify what we do know and what we have seen. We plead with men to be reconciled to God, and to accept these glorious principles, that they may enjoy the happiness which we experience, and have the same living testimony. What a shame it would be, my brethren and sisters, if we did not value these blessings. Do we value these privileges? Do we appreciate this glorious redemption? And do we manifest unto Him our appreciation by keeping His commandments? Are we magnifying our callings? If we are ward teachers, are we faithful in visiting the flock entrusted to us? Do we visit the widow and the fatherless? Do we comfort the hearts of the oppressed and the distressed? Are we seeking the welfare and blessing of the families entrusted to our care, by seeing that everything is in order, and that their children attend the Primaries, the Sabbath schools and the Mutual Improvement Associations, according to their age? Do we see that there is no hardness of heart, no backbiting, no evil speaking? Are we expounding the Scriptures? Are we showing the value of a well spent life? Are we in our lives, in our ministry and in our teachings portraying the life of Jesus Christ? This question comes to all individually. Am I doing this? We want to work out our own salvation to magnify the everlasting Priesthood, to be true and faithful to the promises we have made to God, to serve Him and keep His commandments. It is the only way to be saved. The Lord says if we will love Him and keep His commandments He will raise us up at the last day. He provides for us to-day also. There is nothing that we have but He has provided for us. He brought us into His Church. He gathered us to Zion. He gave us the Priesthood. He gave us our endowments and the blessings and keys of everlasting lives. He gave us our companions and our children. And all that He asks from us is that we will give Him our hearts and keep His commandments. He desires us to consecrate to Him one-tenth of everything He gives us to demonstrate to Him that we

appreciate His blessings. He has told us to do this that the land of Zion may be sanctified unto Him and His statutes and His judgments may be kept thereon that it may be most holy. Don't you want His statutes to be kept? Don't you want His power to be made manifest? Don't you want redemption for the living and the dead? These are the questions that come to us individually. How are we living? Are we in harmony with these everlasting principles? For we are living in the last days—in the days of wickedness and vengeance. We are living in the days when the Lord is going to pour out His judgments upon the people of the world, preparatory to the second coming of the Messiah. Every intelligent man and woman realizes that the time is short, and that we have no time to waste.

The testimony that was borne here in relation to the people of Scotland observing the Sabbath day I can endorse. I labored in Scotland a few years myself, and the people there believe in keeping holy the Sabbath day. The Latter-day Saints here believe in keeping the Sabbath day holy. It is the latter day sinners that do not. If we are Sabbath-breakers, we shall have to suffer the penalty. There are penalties for the transgressor. It is not worth while to break the commandments of God. It is wiser to keep ourselves clean and have the Sabbath day for what it was intended—a day of rest, a day of peace, a day to associate ourselves together and hear the word of the Lord, to partake of the Sacrament—the emblems of the death and suffering of the Savior. There are plenty of days to have all the enjoyment we need; “but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work.” The Lord requires that of His people; and I want you to understand that His people keep that commandment. The Lord's own do not break that commandment. I remember on one occasion I was called to attend the funeral of a man who had been out shooting on the Sabbath day and had accidentally got shot. Did he not pay the penalty of his wrong doing? But how many have broken the Sabbath day and have as yet paid no penalty? The Latter-day Saints keep the commandments of God. But the wheat and the tares are growing together, and the tares are sometimes pointed to in order to prove that we are not the Church of God. Individually we have our weaknesses and our idiosyncracies; but the Church of Christ is immaculate, and whoso subscribes to these everlasting principles of His Gospel will become everlasting men and women. The Lord Jesus Christ was the prototype. He set the example. We have taken upon us His name, and we have to be Christlike. To these brethren who have come back from missions, where they have had such joy, in the service of God, I say, continue in your labors. Go to the Sabbath schools and preach the Gospel to the rising generation. Set an example that you need not be ashamed of in the midst of the people. Mind your own business; attend to your own affairs; work out your own salvation; love God and keep His commandments. In doing this you will keep your armor bright and not become busybodies, nor gossipers, not faultfinders, nor bearers of false witness against your neighbor.

In conclusion, let me say, my dear brethren and sisters, let us be kind

to ourselves; let us patiently work out our own salvation; let us love our wives and children, and treat them with kindness and tenderness, and seek for the salvation of our own households. If we will do this, we will enjoy the blessing of our Father, and we will understand what it means to have that peace which passeth all understanding, which we have a right to have in our households. I pray God that He will be merciful unto us as a people; that He will pardon our transgressions, and blot out our iniquities; that He will give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and understanding hearts; that He will bestow upon us the intelligence that cometh from above, that we may be sanctified by the truth to Him and His service, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLIPPING FROM UTAH EXCHANGES.

The health of the Utah boys at Manila continues to be good in comparison with the other soldiers.

Utah wheat advanced 5 cents per bushel last week, and the indications are that it will go higher during the coming week.

James Stark, of Payson, lost three carloads of horses in a railroad wreck while they were being shipped to the Kansas City market.

A new gas well, which the owners have christened The Rooster, has been tapped near Salt Lake, and there will no longer be a shortage in gas, so the owners say.

The boys of the Utah batteries at Manila are publishing a weekly newspaper called the *American Soldier*. The first two numbers have reached their friends in Utah.

R. S. Bradley, live stock agent of the Colorado Midland, returned this morning bringing in twenty car loads of cattle from Sanpete County. He says more are to follow.

The Lehi Sugar company's bonds, formerly owned by eastern capitalists have been bought in by Salt Lake parties, who consider the issue of \$400,000 in 6 per cent gold bonds as gilt edged.

The movement of cattle to the East is almost unprecedented, even for October, which is the month of movement for stock. All lines are finding it difficult to supply cars. Sheep cars are almost impossible to obtain.

That Ashley valley is pushing to the front rank as a honey producing section, was demonstrated this week when James Hacking of the Deseret apiary, shipped by wagon to Price 35,000 pounds of the product of his hives. The shipment will go from Price to Chicago.

G. W. Van Gundy, who runs an apiary on the John G. Davis farm north of Vernal, handed your correspondent to-day a statement of the product of one colony of bees for the season, which amount to 430 pounds of extracted honey. Mr. Van Gundy will make affidavit as to the truth of the statement.

The threshing of Cache valley's enormous wheat crop is about completed, and the results more than justify the expectations of the farmers. Bishop G. L. Farrell of Smithfield threshed 14,700 bushels a few days ago, while J. F. Wright of Hyrum expects 15,000 bushels. Quite a number of individuals raised from 8,000 to 10,000 bushels each.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1898.

FORGIVENESS VERSUS RETALIATION.

THE Savior says, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5: 44, 45.)

In answer to Peter's question as to how many times he should forgive his brother, the Lord said "seventy times seven." For whose benefit were these injunctions given, for that of the offended or the offender? The latter part of the first quotation will effectually answer this question: "That you may be the children of your father which is in heaven." God gives all His commandments for the benefit of those who are willing to obey them. The spirit of forgiveness will bring far more blessings to one who forgives than to the forgiven. One who has so far overcome self as to love, pity and forgive an enemy and can, at will, cast all bitterness from the heart has discovered one of the foremost secrets of human happiness and sweet content, and has had a foretaste of heaven such as few mortals ever receive. The Lord designed His children to be happy and has given rules of life by which happiness can be attained.

The most tormenting miseries with which men are afflicted are those of their own making by harboring hate, envy, jealousy, revenge and kindred feelings such as bar out all the joys of this world and unfit the subject for the next.

O, who can look upon a person growing prematurely old under the torturing burden of a real or fancied grievance, brooded over for years, without feeling a touch of pity for one so foolish as to harbor in his bosom an enemy that is destroying the body and cankering the soul!

Could an injured person look into the deepest recesses of the hearts of those who maliciously perpetrated the wrongs and could see and fully sense the mental torment there going on, probably for years before repentance is fully accomplished, it is most likely that all feelings of retaliation would be eradicated, and he would feel like exclaiming with the Savior, "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." The offender will eventually suffer more acute torment than the injured one, if possessed of a spark of mercy, would care to inflict; and the difference is that natural punishment, known only to God and the guilty one, may result in repentance and reformation, while punishment inflicted by the injured one only tends to drive repentance farther away.

Holding malice has no effect on the enemy but only on the one harboring

it. Such thoughts should be cast off as soon as they present themselves, for if allowed to remain even for a few moments they become harder to throw off, and may lead to deeds that will bring life-long sorrow. The Savior says, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies."

One who has reached that standard of excellence where the temptation to do conscious wrong to others is completely subdued can well afford to extend the hand of mercy to the erring and assist them to rise to higher levels. Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another," and where perfect love is no malice or spirit of revenge can abide; neither will the spirit of God abide where these feeling are harbored.

To close this subject we cannot do better than present these beautiful lines from Shakespeare:

"The quality of mercy is not strain'd;
It droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven
Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd;
It bleaseth him that gives, and him that takes:
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest: it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown:
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;
But mercy is above this sceptred sway;
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute to God himself,
And earthly power doth then show likest God's,
When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew,
Though justice be thy plea, consider this,—
That in the course of justice none of us
Should see salvation: we do pray for mercy,
And that same prayer doth teach us all to render
The deeds of mercy."—SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*.

A. W.

A VALUABLE GIFT.

THE claim is sometimes made that corporations have no souls, but we have just received substantial evidence that the claim is not true. The well known Co-op. Wagon and Machine Co., of Utah, and Idaho, have just presented the Liverpool Office with a handsome Stewart steel range, an article that for beauty and usefulness would gladden the heart of any housewife in Europe or America.

The range is manufactured by The Fuller-Warren Co., of Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A., and reflects credit upon the manufacturers.

We feel very grateful to the Co-op. Wagon and Machine Co. for their liberality in making this mission such an elegant present, and we feel sure if the directors of the firm could look in upon us and see the improved appearance of the kitchen, the happy and contented look of the cook, and the pleasure manifested by all concerned, they would also be happy.

The scriptures say, "The liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal

things shall he stand." The same rule will no doubt apply to liberal business houses. Long may the Co-op. Wagon and Machine Co. live and flourish.

THE following is from the Salt Lake *Tribune*, a non-Mormon paper of Utah.

"TRIBUTES FROM PULPITS.

"Father Kiely, at the regular Catholic services yesterday morning, Sept. 4, said:

"President Woodruff, whose remains were brought to the city this morning, has been looked upon by all the people of this State, irrespective of religious or political creed, as a good man. To the church of which he was the honored head, he was a president—counselor, a vigilant, and loving father, whose memory will be always venerated. He was a devoted, zealous churchman, faithful to the light, which conscience pointed out to him; but in no sense, judging from his life and public utterances, was he afflicted with a spirit of fanaticism. He was too charitable to be swayed by prejudice, or religious bigotry. His reputation for strict honesty in business affairs extended far beyond the State of Utah. All Utah should unite in expressing their sorrow and condolence to the family, who deeply feel their bereavement."

"Rev. W. H. Bagby, pastor of the Central Christian church, alluded in his evening sermon to his congregation to the death of the Mormon president. His reference was only in passing and was of brief character. He spoke of the dead President as a man of great personal integrity, simple in his habits and earnest."

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has issued a proclamation setting apart Thursday, Nov. 24, as a day of thanksgiving, and requests all citizens of the United States, whether at home or abroad, to meet in their places of worship to offer thanks to God for the blessings of the year.

He specially mentions the successful termination of the war with the loss of so few lives, and its beneficial results.

By letter from Elder Halldor Johnson who is laboring in Iceland, we learn that he is kindly received, and is laboring faithfully to spread the truth in that land, some having been brought to believe the truth as promulgated by the Latter-day Saints through his instrumentality.

THIS office has just published a revised edition of the tract entitled "The Latter-day Saints. Their Religion, History, Condition and Destiny," by Elder James H. Anderson. All desiring them can now have their orders filled.

A SUPPLY of books from Salt Lake City has been received, and we can now fill all orders.

RELEASES.—The following named Elders have been honorably released to return home on the s.s. *Anchoria*, on Dec. 15th, 1898:

Dan Muir, Traveling Elder in the Newcastle Conference; Niel L. Gardner, Traveling Elder in the Nottingham Conference; Robert F. Gilchrist, Traveling Elder in the Scottish Conference, and L. George Clark, Traveling Elder in the Welsh Conference.

SCOTTISH CONFERENCE NOTICE.—A Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in the North Saloon of the City Hall, Candleriga, Glasgow, Scotland, December 4, 1898. Meetings will commence at 11 a.m., and 2 and 6:30 p.m. Entrance D Candleriga.

A TESTIMONY.

THE following letter from Elder David O. McKay of the Scottish Conference relates a remarkable incident which shows how the hearts of people are prepared for the reception of the Gospel.

"The Elders laboring in Ayr, relate the following experience which will be interesting and encouraging perhaps to some of the readers of the STAR:

"For some time after our arrival in Ayr, we had no encouragement whatever from the people; but were met with such cold indifference that our hopes were lowered nearly to the point of despair. However we persevered with our street meetings and on July 4th had the satisfaction of speaking to our first good audience. As the meeting proceeded a spirit of opposition became very manifest. Our opponents tried to interrupt us, but a woman's encouraging voice was heard, saying: 'Pay no attention to the disturbers; your teachings are in accordance with the Scriptures. Go on with your meeting!' She was an entire stranger to us, and little knew at the time what consolation and encouragement her words gave two humble servants of the Lord.

"She was recognized at several of our succeeding meetings, and on the evening of September 5th, we had the pleasure of conversing with her. Mrs. Wilson, for that is her name, invited us to her home, and in accepting the invitation we took with us some views of Utah. In the illustration of the Salt Lake Temple is a picture on one of the windows showing the Prophet Joseph Smith receiving his first vision. When Mrs. Wilson saw this she shed tears of joy and said, 'I saw in a dream that man praying in the woods, a long time ago.'

"As the conversation continued, Elder N—— read his blessing received when he was set apart for his mission. Among other promises made him was one that 'Angels should go before him.' When the lady heard this, she testified again saying, 'That is true; Angels have been here, and I saw you two men coming from America to preach the Gospel.'

"Mr. Wilson received us very kindly and manifested an interest in our message. We have visited their home frequently, always receiving the greatest kindness.

"Mrs. Wilson and her two daughters were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on the 7th inst. Their testimony is indeed a strong one. May it help to strengthen and encourage others!"

ERRORS REFUTED.

DEAR BROTHER:

As per promise I forward you clipping from the *Manchester Evening News* of the 26th of October, 1890. Also please find my reply which was handed in at the *News* office, November 2, 1893, but they declined to print it. As many people have seen the article in the paper we propose to let them read our reply if only through the columns of our own press.

CLIPPING.

"From what transpired recently at a Mormon meeting in London it would appear that the stern action of the United States with regard to the practice of polygamy among the Mormons has had the effect intended. Whilst not disbelieving in the principle of polygamy the chief officers of the Church declare on the strength of a 'fresh revelation' that for the present polygamy is 'inexpedient.' This declaration, striking as it does at one of the great principles of Mormonism, is by no means popular with the brethren, and will probably go a long way in the direction of sweeping away a sect that has long been a disgrace to civilization. With the view of recruiting their diminishing ranks the Mormon leaders are now engaged in making a European tour, but in these enlightened days their mischievous mission will, it is to be hoped, result in nothing like the success achieved by similar means years ago."

REPLY.

To the Editor of the *Manchester Evening News*:

DEAR SIR:

Among your leaders under date of the 26th of October, there appeared an article on the Mormons, and, though brief, contained many untruths, which if allowed to pass unanswered would have a bad effect on the minds of the observing public. To say that the declaration against polygamy is by no means popular with the Mormon brethren is evading the truth, for out of 1700 missionaries which are abroad in the nations of the earth to-day, not one of them is ever found preaching or advocating polygamy in any form whatever, hence there must exist a popular feeling in favor of its discontinuance. Moreover we will take the testimony of the prospective Liberal candidate for the Elland district, who has just returned from the land of the Mormons.

He says in the *Halifax Courier* of September 17, "The Mormons are of course chiefly interesting to the outside world, because of their unusual matrimonial notions, polygamy at any rate in name is no more in Utah. The Utah people are law-abiding and industrious and there is less political corruption and selfishness than in most American States. Salt Lake City is one of the best governed large centers in the west, and this is due to the Mormons, who have always, and still do, exercise the chief control of affairs." Then, Mr. Editor, where does the disgrace of this people come in which your article stated, had long been existing against civilization.

Moreover, the Mormon ranks are not diminishing therefore need no recruiting; instead of the former, they have added to their numbers

during 1895-96-97 upwards of 25,000 members, and it is not so that the Mormon leaders are engaged in making a European tour seeking recruits. There are the usual staff of Mormon Elders (not leaders) located in different parts of England, half a dozen of whom may be found in the city of Manchester, who have left their homes and families to come over here paying their own expenses in all they require, buying their own tracts and other literature, which they freely distribute, for a period of two years or more and when they return home are succeeded by other Elders in like manner. Truly their labor is one of love, for they receive not, nor expect, a penny piece for their labors, and yet such people as these must be classed as a disgrace to civilization. Where is the law that would sustain such a charge?

In reference to what transpired at the meeting in London, (which your article refers to) I will quote the words of Mr. Tripp, who in conjunction with the chairman of the Clerkenwell Vestry held in the Town Hall, Roseberry Avenue, London, found that they had hired the Council chamber to the Mormons to hold special meetings in. Mr. Tripp said in defence "I have seen the Mormons at their homes in Salt Lake City, and I can say a better community of people do not exist the wide world over, but there is a prejudice against them." It is astonishing that a leading paper of a respectable city like Manchester should stoop to that gutter of prejudice and say that the Mormons are a disgrace to civilization. But the Clerkenwell Town Hall was crowded on October 23rd, when there were present thirty speakers from Salt Lake City who announced an addition of sixty-one to the cause during the past six months ending September, 1898.

As further evidence of what other Englishmen say about the Mormons, I would refer your readers to the *Bristol Mercury* of October 8th, 1898, and they will there find a flat contradiction to what your article said. Then again, turn to the *Lincoln Leader* for August and you will find stated there, that the Mormons are worthy of a position side by side with any Christians that exist. Dr. Joseph Parry, the well known musical-director, adjudicator and critic of Cardiff has just returned from Salt Lake City, and the Mormons are proud to find another honest man, which the Dr. has proved himself to be by what he has said concerning them in the *Welsh Echo*. In and around Manchester there are nearly 400 Mormons who will hold their Conference in Oldham, on Sunday, November 13, when no fewer than twenty missionaries from Salt Lake City will be present.

Your writer was born and raised within half a dozen miles of Manchester, but has had the privilege of spending a few years among the so-called disgraceful Mormons, but is proud of the day that he ever went, for prior to my going, I held some rather peculiar notions respecting that people. But I find, Mr. Editor, that with a great many outside people, there has been sufficient prejudice exercised against the Mormon church on one particular subject, to blind them to its better side. The Mormons have converted the irrigable portions of Utah from an arid sage-brush desert, almost into a garden, with beautiful towers at intervals, embowered in orchards and shade-trees, and the converts from Europe, mostly former

hopeless rate-payers and wage-earners, are now small free-holders, many of them in much better circumstances than they could have been in their native lands.

Then I say, in the face of all such evidence, let us not unjustly condemn, I have pleasure in attaching to this letter a copy of the articles of faith as believed in by the Latter-day Saints, a perusal of which will show that they are law abiding citizens wherever they are to be found, and as I know that this Mormon question is of vast interest to the public at large, I hope, Mr. Editor, that I may have the privilege of being quoted correctly in what I have said.

Thanking you in anticipation of its publication, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

B. R. BIRCHALL.

TRUSTWORTHINESS.

EVERY boy and girl should aim to form a character for reliability. They should seek to become trustworthy, so that their words and their promises when made might be depended upon. Such a noble trait is of the greatest value to a person.

The possession of genius or of acquired talent even of the highest order is of but little value to one whose promises cannot be relied upon. There are many persons who have superior natural ability, a good education and much acquired skill, but their usefulness is extremely limited by their utter lack of reliability. Their word cannot be trusted. They do not keep their promises. Other people soon discover their failings and avoid placing confidence in them; and with all their ability they are often without profitable employment.

There are other men who are not so highly endowed with natural talents, and who lack education such as is gained from books, yet their services are of such value that they are continually in demand. They are trustworthy. Men who can be depended upon are needed in every community. They are the men who rise to permanent positions of honor and prominence. They are the ones who become great in the world.

Genius such as makes people appear brilliant in the eyes of the public is considered a natural gift that comparatively few persons inherit, but trustworthiness is only acquired by self effort, yet it is within the reach of all who strive to gain it.

The character for trustworthiness can be cultivated at an early age. Children can form habits of punctuality and reliability by observing to obey their parents' wishes in proper season. By strict obedience to duty children gain their parents' confidence. Their reputation for being prompt and reliable soon becomes known to others, and at an early age their services are sought. If they are employed by others their labors are appreciated because of the dependence that can be placed in them. Young people of this character will perform their duty without being watched. Their employer's interest will be their interest. They will be willing to

forego personal desires or pleasures rather than let their employer's business suffer. They will not object to work overtime when occasion requires it. Young men or young women with such principles will be sure to succeed in life, no matter how meagre their school opportunities may be, or how little natural genius they may possess.—*Juvenile Instructor*.

LEEDS CONFERENCE.

THE Leeds Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened in the Mechanics' Institute, Bradford, Yorkshire, on Sunday, Nov. 20, 1898, President Charles Woolfenden presiding.

Services commenced at 10:30 a.m., and at 2:30 and 6 p.m. There were in attendance the presidency of the European Mission, Rulon S. Wells and Jos. W. McMurrin, Elders A. A. Gibbons of the Newcastle Conference; W. O. Mawson, late of the Leeds Conference; Sister Inez Knight of the London Conference, and the President and Traveling Elders of the Leeds Conference.

The speakers of the morning meeting were: Elders Charles Woolfenden, Henry C. Brown, Raymond Knight and C. E. Rose.

The general authorities of the Church and the presidency of the European Mission were presented and unanimously sustained. Elder Charles Woolfenden was sustained as President of, and the following named Elders as missionaries in the Leeds Conference, to labor in the districts assigned them: Henry John and Joseph Boyes in the Hull District; James Laird and Edward J. Pay in the Halifax District; Henry C. Brown, Alonzo Ingram and David H. Goodyear in the Bradford District; James Ratcliffe, Chas. E. Rose, Hubert C. Burton and Elias G. Gardner in the Leeds District; James W. Lesueur and Ernest C. Smith in the Harrogate District; Elder Henry C. Brown was sustained as Clerk of the Conference.

The following statistical report for the past six months was read: Missionaries from Zion—High Priests, 1; Seventies, 13; Local Priesthood—Elders, 14; Priests, 11; Teachers, 10; Deacons, 11; members, 387; children under eight years of age, 60; total number of officers and members, exclusive of missionaries from Zion, 493. Hall meetings held, 371; out-door meetings, 146; M. I. A. sessions, 35; Priesthood meetings, 11; Relief Society meetings, 26; Sunday school sessions, 127; Bible Classes, 15. Baptisms, 27; confirmations, 27; children blessed—of members, 18; of non-members, 4; ordinations, 10. Tracts distributed—from door to door, 44,844; in open-air meetings, 7,504; books sold, 24; loaned, 213; given away, 32; strangers' houses visited in tracting, 12,668; by first invitation, 338; by re-invitation, 265; Gospel conversations, 1,740; emigrated over eight years of age, 1; died—over eight years of age, 2; under eight, 2; removed, 1; excommunicated, 1; new subscribers to the STAR, 17.

The speakers in the afternoon service were Elder Henry John, Sister Inez Knight and President Rulon S. Wells, and those of the evening were President Chas. Woolfenden, Sister Inez Knight and President Jos. W.